

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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June 21, 2011

Deputy Secretary Jerry Meral
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Dear Deputy Secretary Meral:

We are writing to express the concerns of El Dorado County as it relates to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). El Dorado County, located in east-central California, encompasses 1,805 square miles of rolling hills and mountainous terrain. The County's western boundary contains part of Folsom Lake, and the eastern boundary is also the California-Nevada State line. The County is topographically divided into two zones. The northeast corner of the County is in the Lake Tahoe basin, while the remainder of the County is in the "western slope," the area west of Echo Summit.

It is important to El Dorado County and its citizens that the implementation of the BDCP not negatively impact water rights, including area of origin water rights, of those who are not party to the BDCP. Additionally, we are concerned about the potential for negative impacts of BDCP implementation on ecosystems outside of the Delta.

As you know, counties have regulatory and public trust responsibilities over the lands, surface waters, groundwater resources, fish and wildlife, mining and overall environmental quality within their respective jurisdictions. Abundant natural resources are a key component of the history, economic base, and culture of California's rural counties.

El Dorado County recognizes that the Bay-Delta is an important economic and environmental resource, and we support the successful resolution of the Bay-Delta's complex problems – but not at the expense of parties who will not benefit from the long-term assurances proposed to be provided by the BDCP.

In conclusion, El Dorado County urges you, in your capacity as Deputy Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency in charge of the BDCP, to ensure that appropriate protections are provided so that programs and/or facilities implemented or constructed in the Delta will not result in the redirection of unmitigated adverse impacts.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Nutting, Chair
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

cc: Secretary John Laird, Natural Resources Agency
Kathy Mannion, Regional Council of Rural Counties